

VENONA

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USSR

Ref. No.: 3/NBF/T2217

Issued: 2/11/76

Copy No: 501

QUERY ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS WITH VESSEL(S) (1946)

From: MOSCOW

To: LONDON

No: A222

5 December 1946

To GORSHKOV[1].

Please state whether you are continuing communications with vessel(s) [KOBRAEL'][ii] and if you are continuing [1 group unrecovered].

[16 groups unrecoverable]

No. 23857

SENIOR SIGNALS OFFICER [STARShLIJ SVYzLIST]

Footnotes: [i] GORSHKOV: Colonel Yrko Petrovich GORSHKOV, in the UK 3 June 1945 - 11 December 1948 and 12 July 1949 - 16 July 1950; Soviet Military Attaché from at least 10 June 1947, previously Assistant/Acting Military Attaché.

[ii] "KOBRAEL" is normally used in the sense of "Naval vessel". Between 18 and 30 November 1945 a transmitter using callsign F2R-1, working from ENGLAND, was in contact with Soviet vessels. The Soviet Embassy transmitter was at this time using callsign F2R. The implication of the suffix is that the transmitter belonged to the Embassy but may not have been located there. The messages passed are in a system resembling Soviet Naval/Naval Air systems of this period.

Possibly of MOSCOW's No. 1834 of 20 September 1945 (3/NBF/T2077) or No. 2252 of 28 November 1946 (3/NBF/T2154).

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